

American law and values and strong bipartisan support from those who know them best. Instead of allowing an up-or-down vote, a minority of Senators have been filibustering Miguel Estrada for nearly 5 months and Priscilla Owen for 3 months and are now obstructing the nomination of Bill Pryor. The failure to hold votes on these nominations not only is inconsistent with the Senate's constitutional responsibility but also has caused extended judicial vacancies that are harmful to the American judicial system.

Every judicial nominee should receive an up-or-down vote in the full Senate, no matter who is President or which party controls the Senate. It is time to move past the partisan politics of the past and do what is right for the American legal system and the American people. Let each Senator vote how he or she thinks best, but give the nominees a vote.

NOTE: The statement referred to Miguel A. Estrada, nominee to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit; Priscilla Owen, nominee to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit; and William H. Pryor, Jr., nominee to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

July 26

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

July 27

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC. Later, he hosted a White House tee-ball game on the South Lawn and made welcoming remarks to the participants.

Also in the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with American cyclist Lance Armstrong to congratulate him on winning his fifth Tour de France earlier in the day.

July 28

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan to discuss the situations in Iraq and North Korea and economic development in Japan.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Pittsburgh, PA.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

July 29

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, in the Old Family Dining Room, the President had lunch with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel. Later, he met with Foreign Minister Saud al-Faysal al Saud and Ambassador to the U.S. Prince Bandar of Saudi Arabia to discuss the recent congressional report on the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Later in the afternoon, the President met with a bipartisan group of Senators to discuss proposed energy legislation.

The President announced his intention to appoint Duane Acklie as a member of the Board of Directors of the Student Loan Marketing Association and, upon appointment, to designate him as chairman.

The President declared a major disaster in Florida and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on June 13 and continuing.

The President declared a major disaster in Tennessee and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, high winds, and heavy rain on July 21–22.

July 30

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

During the day, the President had a telephone conversation with President Hu Jintao of China to discuss the situation in North Korea.

The President announced his intention to reappoint William K. Sessions III as a vice chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Pamela P. Willeford to be Ambassador to Switzerland and concurrently to Liechtenstein.

The President announced his designation of William H. Campbell as Acting Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Human Resources and Administration.

July 31

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Secretary of State Colin L. Powell.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Vice President Dick Cheney.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michele M. Leonhart to be Deputy Administrator of Drug Enforcement at the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The President announced his designation of Karen P. Tandy as Acting Administrator of Drug Enforcement at the Drug Enforcement Administration.

August 1

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced his intention to nominate Richard Eugene Hoagland to be Ambassador to Tajikistan.

The President declared a major disaster in North Dakota and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and high winds on June 24–25.

The President declared a major disaster in Ohio and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by tornadoes, flooding, severe storms, and high winds on July 21 and continuing.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted July 30

Cristina Beato,
of New Mexico, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to the qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, vice Eve Slater, resigned.

James Casey Kenny,
of Illinois, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Ireland.

George W. Miller,
of Virginia, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for the term of 15 years, vice James T. Turner, term expired.

F. Dennis Saylor IV,
of Massachusetts, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, vice Robert E. Keeton, retired.

Pamela P. Willeford,
of Texas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Switzerland, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Submitted August 1

Richard Eugene Hoagland,
of the District of Columbia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Tajikistan.

Sandra L. Townes,
of New York, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, vice Sterling Johnson, Jr., retired.